

and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 1715) was read the third time and passed.

STEENS WILDERNESS ACT OF 2000

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 4828, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4828) to designate wilderness areas and a cooperative management and protection area in the vicinity of Steens Mountain in Harney County, Oregon, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statement relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 4828) was read the third time and passed.

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, moments ago, by unanimous consent, the Senate passed H.R. 4828, the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act. This bill, supported by the entire Oregon delegation, is a very unique piece of legislation to enhance the protection of Steens Mountain in Southeastern Oregon, while preserving the local ranching economy.

As the sponsor of the Senate companion bill, S. 3052, cosponsored by my colleague, Senator WYDEN, I am here to thank my colleagues for the swift consideration of the House-passed bill. This bill enjoys broad support, ranging from the local community officials and the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, to Oregon Trout and the Sierra Club.

For those of my colleagues who have not had the good fortune to visit this special place, the Steens Mountain area in southeastern Oregon is a unique geologic formation that is home to a wide diversity of flora and fauna. The Steens Mountain fault block stretches sixty miles. It rises to an elevation of 9,700 feet and drops 5,500 feet in three miles to the historic lakebed of the Alvord Desert.

The federal lands on Steens Mountain are managed by the Bureau of Land Management. There is significant private ownership in the area, with over 270 separate landowners controlling about one-third of the land. There are several large ranching operations that graze both public and private lands in the Steens Mountain area.

Faced with multiple landowners, and a wide range of views on how best to

protect the land, we finally crafted a great bill that enjoys local and national support, and that the President has indicated he will sign.

Through this bill, we are going to designate over one hundred and seventy thousand acres of wilderness. We are permanently removing cattle from over a hundred thousand acres in the High Steens. We will permanently withdraw over 1.1 million acres, including the Alvord Desert, from mining and geothermal development. We are also creating innovative management tools, such as a Redband Trout reserve and a Wildlands Juniper Management Area, to respond to the diverse stewardship needs of the Steens and the wildlife that finds its home there.

Mr. President, it was no easy task to achieve such wide-ranging environmental protection in my state without decimating the way of life of an entire community, and without creating more distrust of federal land management policies. This solution, though, works for the land and the people, rather than trying to make the land fit an existing management classification.

The best way to preserve special places like Steens Mountain, with significant private ownership, is not to force people off the land or to buy them all out. It is to ensure that open spaces are preserved in private ownership, and to provide incentives for the preservation of these open spaces. After all, it is the stewardship of this area by the private landowners over the last one hundred years that makes Steens Mountain the special place that it is today.

For over a year now, the entire Oregon congressional delegation and the Governor have worked closely with the Secretary of the Interior and stakeholders to achieve one primary goal: the preservation of Steens Mountain for future generations of Americans while ensuring that the ranchers can pass their ranches down to their children and grandchildren.

At the risk of leaving someone out, I would like to take a moment to mention some of the people who have contributed to this landmark process. I want to thank all of the Members of the Oregon delegation, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Governor, and all the dedicated staff members who worked on this bill—especially Valerie West, my Natural Resources Director, as well as Kurt Pfotenbauer and Matt Hill of my staff; Lindsay Slater, and Troy Tidwell in Congressman WALDEN's office; David Blair, Josh Kardon, and Sarah Bittleman in Senator WYDEN's office; Amelia Jenkins with Congressman DEFAZIO; Chris Huckleberry with Congresswoman HOOLEY; Michael Harrison with Congressman BLUMENAUER; and working on behalf of Governor Kitzhaber—Kevin Smith and Peter Green. In the Secretary of the Interior's office, I want to extend thanks to Molly McUsic and Laurie Sedlmayr. I also want to recognize the work of Mike Menge, David Dye, and David

Brooks of the Senate Energy Committee, who helped bring this legislation before the Committee and to the floor of the Senate.

There are also many in Oregon that have been essential to this process. First and foremost, those who live in the shadow and beauty of Steens Mountain, and who will continue to act as its stewards: Stacy Davies, Fred Otley and Charlie Otley. There are also those who have represented the various environmental groups in Oregon: Bill Marlett, Andy Kerr, Sybil Ackerman, Jill Workman, and Jim Myron.

Mr. President, this bill is a historic achievement that will protect a mountain and a way of life that are deeply intertwined in the spirit of the American west, and I thank my colleagues for their support.

LIBERTY MEMORIAL IN KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

RELOCATING AND RENOVATING THE HAMILTON GRANGE, NEW YORK

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Energy Committee be discharged from further consideration of the following resolutions, and further, the Senate proceed to their considerations en bloc: S. Con. Res. 114, S. Res. 368.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolutions by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 114) recognizing the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri, as a national World War I symbol honoring those who defended liberty and our country through service in World War I.

A resolution (S. Res. 368) to recognize the importance of relocating and renovating the Hamilton Grange, New York.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions.

Mr. MURKOWSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, the motions to consider be laid upon the table, that any statement related to the resolutions be printed in the RECORD, with the above occurring en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

The resolutions, with their preambles, read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 114

Whereas over 4 million Americans served in World War I, however, there is no nationally recognized symbol honoring the service of such Americans;

Whereas in 1919, citizens of Kansas City expressed an outpouring of support, raising over \$2,000,000 in 2 weeks, which was a fundraising accomplishment unparalleled by any other city in the United States irrespective of population;

Whereas on November 1, 1921, the monument site was dedicated marking the only